

WILLIAM C. WHITNEY VERY LOW

PERITONITIS HAD DEVELOPED FROM DISEASED APPENDIX.

And Became General After the Operation—Family Summoned, and All Who Were in Reach Are at the House—The Attack Came On at "Paraisol."

William C. Whitney is critically ill at his residence, 871 Fifth avenue, of peritonitis, after an operation for the removal of the vermiform appendix. The operation was performed at Mr. Whitney's residence between 8 and 9 o'clock on Saturday night by Dr. William T. Bull, assisted by Drs. James M. Delafield, Walker, Denton and Poole.

The surgeons found that the appendix had been punctured and that the appendicular cavity was filled with pus. The appendix was removed, the wound was thoroughly cleansed and a drain was inserted. Mr. Whitney rallied well from the operation and came out from under the ether with very little nausea. This was regarded as a favorable symptom, inasmuch as it did not subject the patient to the additional strain of retching. The wound around the drain was packed with antiseptic gauze and the patient passed a fairly comfortable night.

On Sunday, however, there was every indication that the inflammation was spreading instead of going down. The patient's temperature rose and the pulse became accelerated. There was a slight improvement Sunday afternoon, but a change for the worse on Sunday night, and yesterday morning the physicians and surgeons had a fully developed case of peritonitis to cope with.

Dr. Bull, who had had to go out of town for another operation, leaving his patient in the care of Drs. James and Delafield, was hastily summoned back, and spent Sunday night and the greater part of yesterday at the house. In the afternoon Dr. Bull said that Mr. Whitney's condition was serious.

There was a consultation of physicians yesterday morning, another yesterday afternoon, a third at 9 o'clock last evening, and a fourth at 11 o'clock last night.

The first bulletin regarding Mr. Whitney's condition was issued by his secretary, Thomas J. Regan, and was as follows:

No details of Mr. Whitney's illness are to be made public. His condition is unchanged, and as yet he is regarded as very sick man. Some of the members of his family are with him, and others are expected soon.

Another bulletin was issued at 3:30 o'clock last evening and was as follows:

6:30 P. M.—There is no change noticeable in Mr. Whitney's condition at 6:30 o'clock. No new symptoms developed during the day, and he was resting quietly. His condition is still critical.

A bulletin at 11:30 o'clock last night said: "Since 6:30 Mr. Whitney has shown a slight improvement."

The doctors regard Mr. Whitney's case as a desperate one, not only on account of the nature of the disease itself, but because of the age of the patient. An authority on appendicitis said yesterday that it is not often that a person over 60 years of age—Mr. Whitney is in his sixty-third year—is taken with an acute attack of appendicitis, and when he is and an operation is performed the chances are much against him.

Mr. Whitney came up from his winter place at Alton, N. J., last week and on Thursday evening, with a party of friends, occupied his box at the Metropolitan Opera House at the performance of "Paraisol."

He was in his usual robust mood when the performance began, but toward the end of the act he had an uncomfortable feeling in the pit of his stomach, which he thought was caused by indigestion.

He and his friends took supper after the performance, after which he went home and to bed. When he retired, to use his own expression, he felt perfectly well, but he still thought it was only indigestion.

In the night the pain shifted from the pit of the stomach to the right side of the abdomen and early on Friday morning had become so acute as to be almost unbearable. Then he sent for his doctor, Walter B. James.

Dr. James found his patient suffering so much pain that, even before he undertook superficial examination, he administered opiates. Mr. Whitney became easier, and Dr. James, having obtained a history of the case and having made a digital examination of the abdomen, told Mr. Whitney that he was suffering from what appeared to be an acute attack of appendicitis and suggested that Dr. Francis Delafield be called in consultation.

Dr. Delafield confirmed Dr. James' diagnosis and advised Mr. Whitney to submit to an operation for the removal of the appendix. At the same time, Dr. Delafield frankly told Mr. Whitney of the danger that would attend an operation on a man of his age; also that it was equally dangerous to let things remain as they were.

Mr. Whitney hardly took a moment to come to a decision. He told Dr. Delafield and Dr. James that he assumed that they knew their business and that he was in their hands. If they advised an operation, then the quicker it was performed the better. Dr. Bull was the surgeon selected, and he and Drs. Walker, Denton and Poole were sent for.

Dr. Bull, after examining the patient, agreed with the opinions of Drs. Delafield and James, and said that the operation ought to be performed as soon as possible. Mr. Whitney's bedroom was transformed into a temporary hospital, nurses, surgical instruments and an anesthetic were sent for, and the patient was made ready.

An unusually long incision was made in the abdomen and when the walls were separated Dr. Bull saw that the appendix had been punctured and that pus was freely discharging from the sac. That meant the possibility of grave complications. In younger persons such complications would not give so grave concern. After the drain had been inserted and the wound temporarily closed, the surgeons waited for the patient to come out of the ether. He rallied so that not one of the doctors believed that a satisfactory result might be expected from the operation.

Of Mr. Whitney's immediate family only his younger daughter, Miss Dorothy, and Mrs. Whitney, with Miss Adelaide B. Randolph, the daughter of Mr. Whitney's second wife, were sent to be with him. Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney were at their residence, 2 West Fifty-seventh street. They were sent for and were in the house at the time the operation took place, and were also Mrs. Charles F. Barney and Mrs. Henry F. Dimock, sisters of Mr. Whitney.

Mr. Whitney's elder daughter and eldest child, Mrs. Almore H. H. Faget, who was Miss Pauline Whitney, has been living with her husband in London for several years. A cable message was sent to her, and a telegram was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Payne Whitney, Mr. Whitney's younger son and daughter-in-law, at Thomaston, Ga., where they have been spending several weeks with Col. Oliver Payne. Mr. Whitney's brother, Henry M. Whitney of Boston, was also summoned to New York.

Henry M. Whitney arrived here last evening, and it is expected that Mr. and Mrs. Payne Whitney will get here this morning. Another brother, a brother of Almore H. H. Faget, who has been in Alton, has been informed of Mr. Whitney's illness and he is expected to reach town today.

BEIRESS WEDS A LABORER.

Miss Grace Whitaker the Bride of a Man on Her Stepfather's Estate.

MIDDLEBORO, MASS., Feb. 1.—Miss Grace Whitaker, who says New York is her home but has lived here with her mother, Mrs. Clifford Weld, for some time, was married to Kendrick H. Tribou, a young laborer on the estate, a week ago to-day. The bride is 26 years old and the daughter of Mrs. Weld by a former marriage. She has mingled in good society in New York, is accomplished and the neighbors say she was educated at Wellesley. It is also rumored that she stood in good chance to come in for some of the Weld fortune, which is estimated at about \$100,000.

The marriage took place while Mr. and Mrs. Weld were in Connecticut. They have since returned, but Mr. Weld declined to say anything on the subject when questioned to-day. On last Monday Miss Whitaker requested Myles Standish, head farmer on the place, to harness a horse for her, as she was going to be married. Standish refused, but the young woman finally secured a horse and sleigh, and with Tribou beside her drove to the Town Clerk's office here, where a license was secured, and soon after the pair were married by the Rev. R. E. Williams.

The couple remained at the Weld house that night, and went to Plymouth the next morning, where they have since been staying. Standish expressed to Mrs. Weld and she hurried home, but could do nothing. Tribou, who is 25 and good looking, came up from Plymouth to-day, but refused to talk. The Weld estate is one of the finest in this region. It is situated on the Marion road, seven miles from here.

POLICE FOR ELEVATED CROWDS.

Detained to the Stations in the Rush—Much Like Riot Duty.

Police Commissioner McAdoo had several of the inspectors before him yesterday and talked with them concerning the handling of crowds on the elevated railway stations in the rush hours. It was decided to try to do something, and a number of policemen were detailed to stations downtown where the crowds are largest. On the Third avenue line two men were put on each northbound platform from South Ferry to Ninth street. The same was done on stations on the West Side.

The cops reported later that they had about as lively a time as if they had been sent to quell a riot. It is not known whether the police will have to be permanently detailed to the elevated stations.

IN THE NIGHTLY BRIDGE BATTLE

Three Brooklyn Men Locked Up for Overstepping the Rules of the Game.

The policemen at the Bridge trolley loops had their hands full in the rush hours last evening. Martin Rosenblit and Morris Herman were arrested by Policeman Schneider and charged with climbing over the rail of trolley cars and knocking down several people while trying to get aboard. Louis Mussig was arrested by Policeman Toubey for getting aboard a trolley car by jumping over the side.

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JAPAN PASSES FOR REPLY?

MINISTER KURINO SAID TO HAVE PRESENTED A DEMAND.

Notice to Russia That Japan Will Soon Be Compelled to Take Active Steps—Berlin Reports That Answer Will Be Submitted to the Czar for Approval To-day.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. LONDON, Feb. 2.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from St. Petersburg says that in accordance with instructions from his Government, M. Kurino, the Japanese Minister, visited Count Lamsdorff, Russian Foreign Minister, yesterday, and asked whether Russia's reply to the last Japanese note was ready. He said that if it were not he was instructed to say that Japan must press for the reply, and if it were not forthcoming in a very few days Japan would be compelled to take active steps.

It may be stated that the Mail's information is not confirmed from other sources. The Pall Mall Gazette's Berlin correspondent says that a Russian reply will be laid before the Czar to-day by Count Lamsdorff. The nature of the reply has not been communicated to any foreign Power.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times says that the influence of Admiral Alexieff, Viceroy of the Far East, still predominates. He energetically opposes any concessions by Russia on essential points, and recommends delay in preference.

Moscow, Feb. 1.—The newspaper, Russ says it fears that the old friendship between Russia and the United States has been gravely jeopardized, if no worse, by recent events in the Far East. It does not think that Russia is blameless. It remarks especially upon Washington's unusual lack of diplomatic courtesy in appointing Consuls in Manchuria without previously discussing the matter with Russia.

It says that Russia's prompt acceptance of the appointments ought to convince Washington that Russia retains all her former respect and good will for the United States.

Tokio, Feb. 1.—The steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha Company, which were withdrawn from the Seattle service for use as transports, will resume their sailings on Feb. 10.

Scott, Feb. 1.—Reports from Phenyang accuse the soldiers there of robbery and housebreaking. The missionaries declare that the feeling against foreigners is increasing.

RUSSIA WARNS COREA? Any Alliance with Japan Would Be Dangerous. Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. TOKIO, Feb. 1.—It is reported from Seoul that Yi Young, Korean Minister of War and Finance, on Saturday asked M. Pavloff, the Russian Minister, to withdraw the Russians from Yonampo. M. Pavloff declined to do so, saying that Japanese troops must first leave Seoul.

It is believed that M. Pavloff has warned the Emperor of Korea that the effecting of the rumored Japanese-Korean alliance would be dangerous.

JAPANESE ENVOY CARS GUEST.

Minister Kurino Attends the Ball at the Winter Palace.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 1.—The first court ball of the season was held at the Winter Palace to-night. M. Kurino, the Japanese Minister, was one of the guests.

WASHINGTON UNEASY. Fear That Russia's Answer to Japan May Not Bring Peace.

40 KILLED BY EXPLOSION.

Powder Magazine in Fort Bhatinda, India, Blows Up.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. LAHORE, Feb. 1.—Twenty thousand pounds of powder exploded to-day in the fort of Bhatinda, Punjab. The magazine was blown to atoms and forty persons were killed.

PREMIER BALFOUR ILL. Has Influenza and May Not Attend Opening of Parliament.

Fleet Offered to the Kaiser.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—Elder, Dempster & Co. of Liverpool have telegraphed to the German Emperor placing the whole of their South African fleet at his disposal for use as transports in the suppression of the Hottentot rebellion.

Germany has declined the offer, not needing transports at present.

New Post Offered to Roberts.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—The Chronicle says that Prime Minister Balfour is confined to his bed with an attack of acute influenza. It adds that he is unlikely to attend the opening of Parliament to-day.

Maintain Present Standards.

Watchword of Sam Gompers Now—No Talk of Higher Wages.

President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor issued a statement to the unions yesterday in which he says: "We should try and prevent the deterioration of the present labor conditions. If we can maintain the present standard of life for the working people we shall be doing very well."

Studying Roosevelt's Western Record.

Denver, Col., Feb. 1.—When Jacob Kiss finishes talking with Adjutant-General Sherman M. Bell, John Goff, the guide, a score of ranchmen, and incidentally absorbing some of the lore of the West, he will be ready to return to his home in New York and write the life of President Roosevelt. Mr. Kiss is also delivering lectures in Colorado.

Latest Marine Intelligence.

Arrived: So Concho, Galveston, Jan. 2.

Dewey's Port Wine and Grape Juice.

Are superior for your sick ones.

H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 130 Fulton St., New York.

MAYOR HAS A GAS BILL.

Leaving Inspection of Meters to the City and Allowing Gas Tests Any Time.

Corporation Counsel Delany is at work on a bill to amend section 322 of the Charter, which provides that the city inspector of gas may not make more than one test in a week and that no action can be taken against a gas company unless its supply is found to be below standard in three consecutive tests.

The bill will be ready for presentation at Albany this week, says Mayor McCellan yesterday. "It is in the line of home rule. We want the privilege of making inspections whenever necessary and we want to have control over the meters, which control is now lodged in a State officer. The proposed amendment will provide for these things."

"This measure is for immediate relief. It is not to take the place of the bill introduced by Assemblyman Edward A. Miller of Kings for the appointment by the Mayor of a commission of five to investigate the whole gas problem and report by Dec. 1, 1904."

CUBAN INSULT TO THE FLAG.

President Palma and Minister Squires Start an Investigation.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. HAVANA, Feb. 1.—News of the insult to the American flag at the consulate in Cienfuegos is confirmed. Minister Squires today directed the local Republican authorities by showing that they are unable to maintain order. Others declare that the outrage was committed by local Republicans, whose action was due to spite because the Consul, in a telegram, had referred to the Republicans as causing trouble in Cienfuegos. It was thought that this statement would be likely to affect the policy of the central Government toward the political struggle in Cienfuegos and elsewhere in Santa Clara.

The affair is variously explained, according to the political sympathies of the persons concerned. Some say that the idea in covering the American flag with mud was to discredit the local Republican authorities by showing that they are unable to maintain order. Others declare that the outrage was committed by local Republicans, whose action was due to spite because the Consul, in a telegram, had referred to the Republicans as causing trouble in Cienfuegos. It was thought that this statement would be likely to affect the policy of the central Government toward the political struggle in Cienfuegos and elsewhere in Santa Clara.

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